

REMARKS

The present Amendment amends claims 1, 2 and 4-12 and cancels claim 3. Therefore, the present application has pending claims 1, 2 and 4-12.

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's indication of Applicants' claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in Japan on May 27, 2003. However, the Examiner noted that Applicants have not filed a certified copy of the JP 2003-087238 application as required by 35 USC §119(b). The Examiner is informed that the certified copy of the priority document with respect to JP 2003-087238 was filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on June 12, 2007. Acknowledgement thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 10 and 11 stand objected to due to informalities noted by the Examiner in paragraph 1 of the Office Action. Amendments were made to claims 10 and 11 to correct the informalities noted by the Examiner. Therefore, this objection is overcome and should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-12 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regards as their invention. As indicated above, claim 3 was canceled. Therefore, this rejection with respect to claim 3 is rendered moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection with respect to claim 3 is respectfully requested. Various amendments were made throughout the remaining claims 1, 2 and 4-12 to bring them into conformity with the requirements of 35 USC §112, second paragraph. Therefore, this rejection with respect to claims 1, 2 and 4-12 is overcome and should be withdrawn.

Specifically, amendments were made throughout claims 1, 2 and 4-12 to overcome the objections noted by the Examiner in the Office Action.

The Examiner's cooperation is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' Attorney by telephone should any further indefinite matter be discovered so that appropriate amendments may be made.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that claims 1, 2 and 4-12 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of the present application based on claims 1, 2 and 4-12 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (H-1135).

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.



Carl I. Brundidge
Registration No. 29,621

CIB/jdc
(703) 684-1120